

# Upcoming Events @ St. Mark's

JUNE 7, 2026

## VBS Registration is now open!

Parents, grandparents, neighbors...Vacation Bible School will be July 7, 8, 9. All children ages 4 and up are invited to join us for Vacation Bible School from 9am-12 noon where we will be exploring the theme Saints and Holy Helpers. Our sessions will be filled with a variety of activities that dive into our theme, including storytelling, games, crafts, special guests, and snacks! There is no charge for VBS. Kids in grade 6 and above are welcome to register to be youth helpers! Use the QR code to sign up.



VBS 2026

## Outdoor Worship & Church Picnic – June 14

All are invited to the first outdoor worship service and picnic of the summer. On the menu: grilled hamburgers, potato salad, chips, fruit, dessert, and lemonade. If the weather doesn't cooperate, worship and picnic will be inside.

## Free Summer Concerts: 2026 Lutheran Summer Music Festival Season – June 21 to July 19

Lutheran Summer Music is thrilled to announce its 2026 season, featuring over 40 free concerts, recitals, and worship services open to the public. Hosted at St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, this season offers a vibrant lineup of musical experiences, also shared online via Live from LSM—bringing this summer's transformational work to audiences around the world. Highlights this season include a guest appearance by Cantus, a series of events dedicated to the music of J.S. Bach—including the St. Matthew Passion—and music celebrating the United States Semiquincentennial. View all events and reserve free tickets at [LSMacademy.org/calendar](https://LSMacademy.org/calendar).

## Lawn care volunteers needed

If you are interested in helping out with grass cutting at St. Mark's this summer, please contact Doug at [ronsbergd@gmail.com](mailto:ronsbergd@gmail.com) or call the church office at 651-777-7451. Cutting days are flexible.

## Mark your calendar

- **July 7,8,9:** Vacation Bible School (9am to noon)
- **Jun.14, Jul.19, Aug.16:** Outdoor worship & picnic
- **Jul 27, Aug 24, Sept 28:** Free produce giveaway

## Help distribute free produce to local families this Summer

St. Mark's is once again hosting three free produce giveaways (July 27, Aug 24, Sept 28) in partnership with Second Harvest Heartland. This is a great way to meet some of our neighbors and provide good food for families. We need a crew of volunteers to help distribute the food from 4-6 pm outside the church. Volunteers should plan to show up at 3:30pm to help sort and set up. If you are interested, contact Julie at [urbanja@comcast.net](mailto:urbanja@comcast.net).

## News from the Foundation

Through the Thrivent Financial Choice® program, eligible members can direct Choice Dollars to support charitable organizations and ministries that make a meaningful difference in their communities. Donating Choice Dollars to a foundation or non-profit organization helps provide funding for important programs, outreach, education, and community care without any additional cost to the member beyond their existing eligibility. These gifts, when combined with the support of others, strengthen the organization's ability to serve, grow, and continue its mission of compassion, generosity, and hope. You can donate your Choice dollars to the St. Mark's Foundation. For help or clarification, talk to Jim Wolf or email [jimwolf5708@msn.com](mailto:jimwolf5708@msn.com). Visit the Foundation website: [www.stmarksnspfoundation.com](http://www.stmarksnspfoundation.com)

## Council meeting date change

Going forward, the St. Mark's Church Council meeting will convene on the fourth Thursday of the month and is held in Rees Hall room #203 and on Zoom. *The next meeting is June 25 at 6:30pm.*

## Volunteers needed at North St. Paul Food Shelf

There are many opportunities to volunteer at the food shelf including: client registration and appointments, shipping and receiving, sorting and stocking shelves, shoppers, etc. To apply for a position, please contact Kathi Kirchoff (manager) at 651-777-2488 or email [nspafs@gmail.com](mailto:nspafs@gmail.com). *Make a difference in the lives of your neighbors and volunteer today! Learn more at: [www.nspafodshelf.org/](http://www.nspafodshelf.org/)*

## Music Notes

Tom Paulson, Director of Music & Worship

Worship is an important force for good in our lives, even during our lovely Minnesota summers, when we all love to be outside, at the lake, or on the golf course. And summer is an appropriate time for our Choir of St. Mark's and Handbell Choir to have their "off-season." This confluence is an opportunity for us to be led in worship by different kinds of music – solos, ensembles, guests, and in different ways. In the last couple of years we have established a great tradition of special music throughout the summer, and 2026 is no different. Scan the list and be sure to be in worship – in person or online – to hear and support your friends and favorite guests. Your spirit will be glad you did.

- June 7 Handbell Choir
- June 14 Outdoors – Worship Band
- June 21 Anna Bjorklund & Lindsay Samelian, *soloists*  
Jennifer Arsenault, *flute*
- June 28 Billy Johnson, *singer/songwriter*
- July 12 Zach Spirov, *singer/songwriter*
- July 19 Outdoors – Worship Band
- July 26 Tom Michel, *tenor*
- Aug 2 Mackenzie, Lenora & Viola Lyon, *soloists*
- Aug 9 Coda Duo (Scott Dorf, *saxophone*;  
Malcolm Anderson, *keyboards*)
- Aug 16 Outdoors – Worship Band
- Aug 23 Shari Durden, *marimba & xylophone*
- Aug 30 Lauren Lammers, *soprano*
- Sept 6 Rachel Wyffels, *violin & soloist*

## New (Old) Liturgy

Two weeks ago, May 24, PENTECOST SUNDAY, we began singing a new/old liturgy: Setting 3, ELW p. 138-146. It is both old and new since it also appears in the LBW (the green book.) Tom Paulson, our Director of Worship and Music strongly encourages you to pull out the red Evangelical Lutheran Worship book from underneath the pew in front of you to sing the Hymn of Praise (Glory to God in the Highest), and the hymns today, and for the next couple of Sundays. The liturgy is not new or difficult, but we have not sung it in a while, and we all could use a refresher course.

## In case you missed it...

The Rev. Justin Grimm has been elected to a six-year term as bishop of the Saint Paul Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). He was elected on the third ballot during the 2026 Synod Assembly, held May 15-16 at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church in Mahtomedi.

Bishop-Elect Grimm currently serves as the synod's director for evangelical mission and assistant to the bishop for congregational vitality, a position he's held since 2015. He previously served as lead pastor at Advent Lutheran Church in Lake Ann, Mich., after first serving as the mission developer. He is a graduate of Northwestern College (Orange City, Iowa) and Luther Seminary (St. Paul, Minn.). He was ordained in 2005. The bishop-elect grew up in Madison, S.D., where he attended Trinity Lutheran Church. He currently resides in Shoreview, Minn. He takes office Aug. 1. An installation service will be held Sept. 13 at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Apple Valley.  
[www.spas-elca.org/category/announcements/](http://www.spas-elca.org/category/announcements/)

## Next Week's Ushering Schedule

June 14: Team 2: Capt. Terri Borowick, Carl Hurtgen

### Weekly Calendar

#### Sunday, June 7

9:30 am Worship Service, SC

#### Monday, June 8

7:00 pm The Marksmen, LC

#### Tuesday, June 9

9:00 am Morning Bible Study, FS

5:30 pm Finance Mtg, Zoom

6:00 pm Property Mtg, Fs

6:30 pm St. Mark's Strummers, SC

7:00 pm Foundation Board Mtg, #203

#### Wednesday, June 10

11:00 am Polar Ridge Service

#### Thursday, June 11

8:30 am Breakfast & Bible Study, offsite

Friday, June 12 – Office Closed

Saturday, June 6 – Office Closed

#### Sunday, June 7

9:30 am Outdoor Worship Service & Picnic



GIVE ONLINE

### Ministry Staff

Rev. David Bjorklund, *Lead Pastor*  
prdavidb@stmarks-nsp.org

Kate Bentley, *Deacon*  
deaconkateb@stmarks-nsp.org

Tom Paulson, *Dir. of Music & Worship*  
tomp@stmarks-nsp.org

### Office Hours

Mon –Thurs: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Ph: 651-777-7451

### Weekly Worship

Sundays: 9:30 am

### Guest WiFi

P3@nutButt3r